



HOUSTON AT A GLANCE

The City of Houston was founded on August 30, 1836, by brothers Augustus Chapman Allen and John Kirby Allen, and named after General Sam Houston. The City of Houston's simple 19th century city seal – the noble locomotive (heralding Houston's spirit of progress) and the humble plow (symbol of the agricultural empire of Texas from which Houston would draw her wealth), clearly speaks to the roots of Houston's economy and to the visionary leadership of its citizens.

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

7.8 million

residents for Houston-Pasadena-The Woodlands MSA

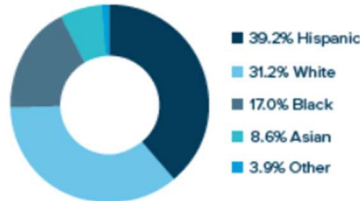
Nation's 5th most populous metro area

Metro Houston ranks between Arizona and Washington by population



Race/Ethnicity: Houston MSA

Houston today mirrors the U.S. in 4 decades



1 in 4 Houstonians born outside the U.S.



Houston is the nation's 4th most populous city

GLOBAL PRESENCE

15 foreign governments

maintaining trade and commercial offices

41 Active International Chambers of Commerce or Trade Associations

In '22, cargo activity at the Houston Ship Channel

supported 1.5 million direct, indirect, and induced jobs across the state of Texas.

146 Houston firms

operate more than 5,400 subsidiary locations across 109 countries

2 international airports
George Bush Intercontinental (IAH)
William P. Hobby Airports (HOU)

Houston Airport System

72 international destinations **129** domestic destinations

201 non-stop destinations

\$373.7 billion

in trade was handled by the Houston-Galveston Customs District in '24

*Numbers may not sum due to rounding

\$122.5 billion in imports (in '24)

\$251.2 billion in exports (in '24)



Houston is the **#1** exporting metro

The Houston Ship Channel is ranked

1st

U.S. port in foreign waterborne tonnage

1st

U.S. port in total foreign and domestic waterborne tonnage

Port Houston is the busiest Gulf Coast container port

2nd U.S. port in total foreign cargo value

5,000+

Houston companies doing business abroad

1,800+

Houston firms report foreign ownership

Since '21, more than

250 foreign-owned

firms have announced projects in Metro Houston.

19 sister-city relationships

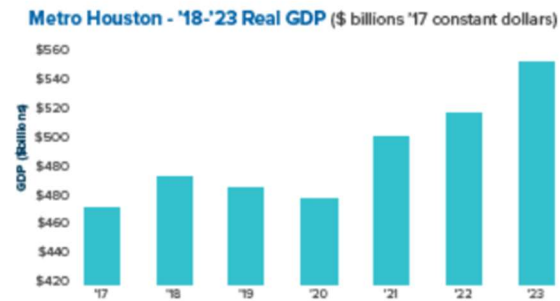
18 foreign banks

are located in Houston from 10 nations

Source: Greater Houston Partnership. "Houston Briefs: Talking Points." Q1/26, pp 1.

ECONOMY

If Houston were a country, it would rank as the 23rd largest economy in the world, between Belgium and Taiwan



Houston – The Woodlands – Sugar Land MSA GDP has grown at a
2.3 percent compound annual growth rate Since '18, after adjusting for inflation

7TH largest U.S. metro economy

26 Fortune 500 Companies call Houston home

EMPLOYMENT

3.5 million

jobs in the Houston MSA



Health, Education, and Business & Professional Services account for over

1 in 4 of the region's jobs

The goods-producing sector accounts for nearly

1 in 6 of the region's jobs



Industry Share of Houston MSA Employment

20.5% Trade, Transportation, and Utilities
15.8% Professional and Business Services
13.7% Private Education and Health Services
13.5% Government
10.6% Leisure and Hospitality
9.2% Mining, Logging and Construction
6.8% Manufacturing
5.2% Finance Activities
0.8% Information
3.9% Other Services

INDUSTRIES

The Texas Medical Center is the world's largest medical complex.

TMC employs **120,000+** workers



\$3 billion in construction projects underway

50 million developed square feet

10 million annual patient encounters

180,000+ annual surgeries

Houston is home to 76,530 engineers and architects and related techs.



Approximately **237,100** people work in the region's manufacturing industry sector

Houston has more than **500** aviation and aerospace-related companies

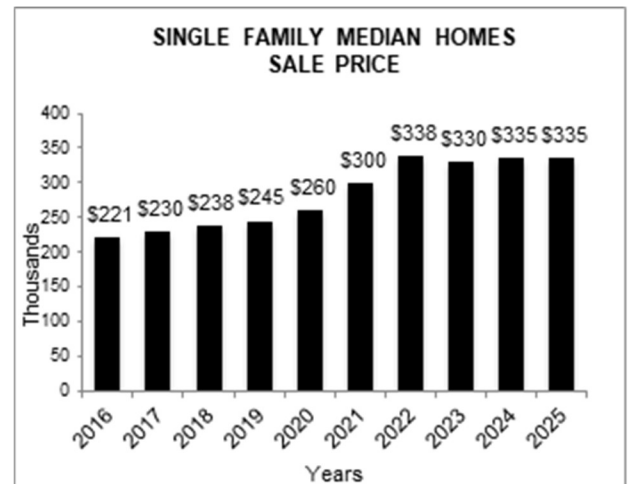
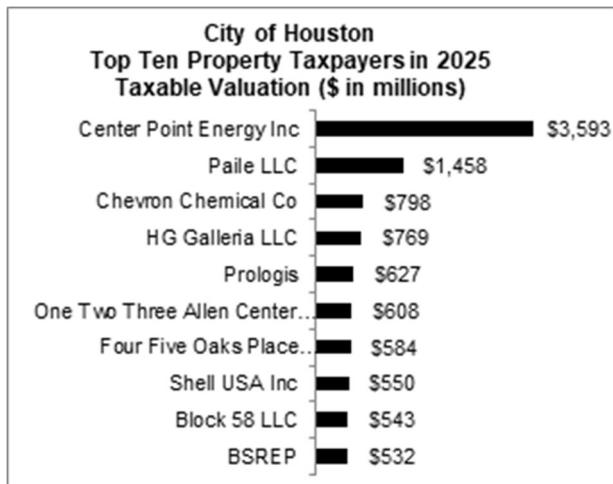
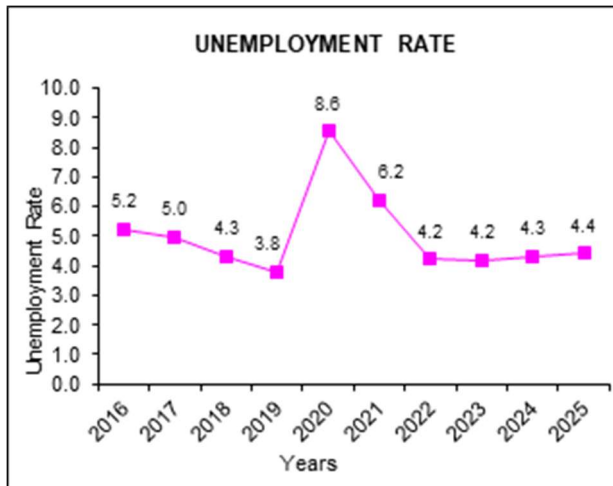
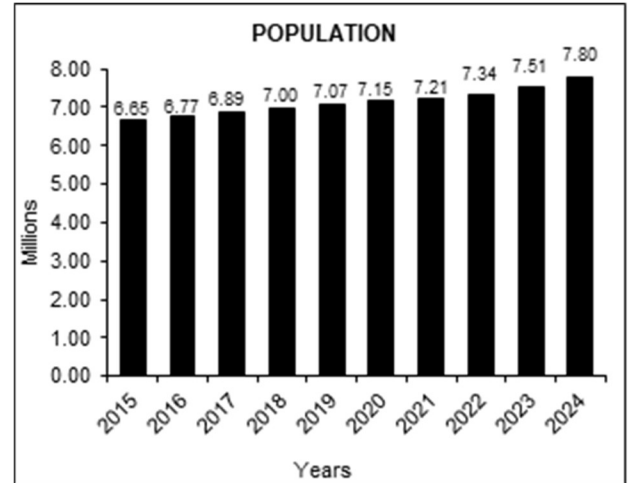
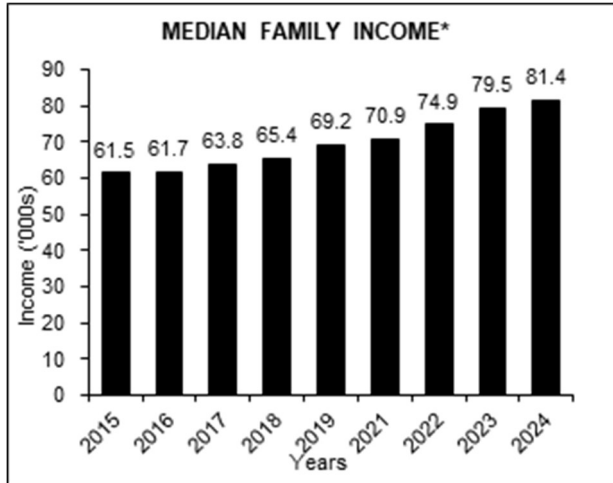


Houston is home to **7,800** tech related firms and more than 1,900 venture-backed startups



Houston employs **84,860** workers in computer & mathematical occupations

HOUSTON MSA AT A GLANCE



* 2020 Data Unavailable Due to Covid-19 Pandemic

**Seasonally Adjusted

Source: US Census Bureau, S Bureau of Labor Statistics, Harris County Appraisal District.

The Houston MSA contains 64 independent school districts (ISDs) and 43 state-approved charter management organizations. In fall '24, public schools in the Houston metro area enrolled nearly 1.3 million students, almost one in four school children in Texas. The Houston Independent School District (HISD) is the ninth-largest public school system in the nation and the largest in Texas. In the '23- '24 school year, HISD operated 274 campuses and enrolled more than 175,000 students.

Colleges and universities in the Houston area enrolled nearly 443,000 students across 33 academic institutions in fall '24, according to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

- Of the students enrolled in colleges and universities in the Houston area, 47 percent of them are attending a community college.
- Houston MSA benefits from three Tier I research universities in proximity: Rice University, University of Houston and Texas A&M University.

INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Greater Houston Area*, Fall 2024

TWO-YEAR COMMUNITY COLLEGES		FALL 2024 ENROLLMENT
Lone Star College System District		78,274
Houston Community College System		43,719
San Jacinto College		31,607
Blinn College		17,549
Lee College		8,287
Lamar Institute of Technology		5,717
Alvin Community College		5,517
Wharton County Junior College		5,512
College of the Mainland Community College District		5,162
Brazosport College		3,208
Galveston College		2,412
Texas State Technical College - Fort Bend		1,071
		208,035 STUDENTS
FOUR-YEAR OR ABOVE		FALL 2024 ENROLLMENT
Texas A&M University		70,667
University of Houston		47,775
Sam Houston State University		20,340
Lamar University		16,658
University of Houston-Downtown		13,732
Prairie View A&M University		10,042
Rice University		8,849
Texas Southern University		8,742
University of Houston-Clear Lake		8,140
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston		5,003
University of St. Thomas		4,301
Houston Christian University		4,276
The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center		3,727
University of Houston-Victoria		3,619
The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston		3,258
Texas A&M University at Galveston		2,134
Baylor College of Medicine		1,740
South Texas College of Law		1,092
The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center		357
Texas Chiropractic College		261
University of Houston Medical School		206
		234,919 STUDENTS
		TOTAL 442,954 STUDENTS

*Note: Some colleges listed are located outside the Houston MSA but within a 100-mile radius, referred to as "Greater Houston."
Source: Texas Higher Ed Enrollment

Source: Greater Houston Partnership. "Houston Facts." July 2025, pp 34.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Houston provides a wide variety of arts and entertainment including theater arts, museums, and sports. The City is home to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, which is the largest rodeo in the world. Texas has 57 cultural districts, of which 7 are in Houston (Texas Commission on the Arts). Houston is one of only a few U.S. cities with resident professional companies in the four disciplines of performing arts: ballet, opera, symphony, and theater. Houston's Theater District, located in downtown Houston, spans 17 blocks, and houses 13,000 seats at its five flagship theaters: Alley Theatre, Hobby Center for the Performing Arts, Jones Hall, Bayou Music Center, and Wortham Theater Center. The Theater District also includes one venue dedicated solely to dance: Houston Ballet's Center for Dance.

The Houston Museum District is one of the country's most visited and diverse cultural centers with 19 museums. These museums provide rich experiences in art, history, culture, nature, and science.

Houston has professional sports teams including those representing football, baseball, basketball, and soccer.

Houston has established itself as a destination for hosting major sporting events along with World Series, USA Gymnastics Men's Visa Championship, Major League Soccer All Star Game, NCAA Men's Final Four, Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympic Games, NBA All-Star Game, 2015 Major League Lacrosse All-Star Game. Houston hosted its third Super Bowl in 2017, five PGA tour Championships, U.S. Women's Open Tournament in 2020, the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship Final Four in 2023, as well as the College Football National Championship in 2024. In 2026, for the first time in history, Houston will host FIFA World Cup matches.

The section below highlights the professional sports teams that call Houston or the Greater Houston area home.

PROFESSIONAL TEAMS IN GREATER HOUSTON			
	HOUSTON ASTROS '17 and '22 World Series Champions Major League Baseball's American League Daikin Park		HOUSTON DASH National Women's Soccer League Shell Stadium
	HOUSTON DYNAMO Major League Soccer's Western Conference Shell Energy Stadium		HOUSTON ROCKETS Western Conference in the National Basketball Association Toyota Center
			HOUSTON TEXANS American Football Conference in the National Football League NRG Stadium

Sources: 1. Greater Houston Partnership. "Houston Facts." July 2025 pp 46-51.
 2. Texas Commission on the Arts (www.arts.texas.gov).